

SOUTHERN & EASTERN CAPE ANNUAL AWARDS

COACH

GROW GOLF

Val Holland

Wanna Be A Champion, Fancourt/Fancourt Golf Academy

1. **What is your current job title?**

Head Teaching Professional and Partner/Owner of Wanna Be A Champion, Fancourt

2. **How long have you been in your current position?**

5 years & 22 years coaching

3. **What have been the key deliverables of your position the past 12 months?**

Offering a top coaching facility with PGA Professionals as assistants, growing the game through all our programs that we have in place. Making a difference in the lives of those who cannot afford to play the game, we have a development program that we support in many ways as well as giving back to the local community by sponsoring the "Down syndrome" school in George and taking golf into their worlds.

4. **How do you see the implementation of Safeguarding on your position and the industry?**

Firstly, I think it is of utmost importance for it to be done to protect all. I think it was a big step taken in our industry to implement it, more importantly the firm stance the PGA are taking on those who do not abide by this requirement that is compulsory.

5. **Please give us a brief outline of the path you took to lead you to your current position?**

I played as an amateur and for South Africa for a number of years 1982- 1999, thereafter I bought a Golf Franchise which I took to the schools, once this was a success, I then decided to join the PGA of SA in 2000. I qualified in 2003 and have had coaching positions at Kingswood Golf Estate and Fancourt since 2003 to date. I joined Wanna Be A Champion as a partner in 2018, I currently head up the coaching at Wanna be A champion Fancourt.

6. **Why do you feel that you would be a good candidate to win this award?**

I have produced a number of top world players through my coaching when they were younger the likes of Brandon Grace, Erik Van Rooyen & Lee-Anne Pace. I have headed

up the Louis Oosthuizen Academy for the last 11 years and have produced some fine players in the likes of Martin Vorster, Jordan Duminy and Christo Lamprecht currently world ranked at 8th. I had 3 players out of the 12 man Junior President Cup Team. I started working with Aldrich Potgieter when he joined the Louis Academy in 2022, Aldrich has won a number of international events, is the current Open Amateur Winner was invited to play in the Masters in 2023 and is currently world ranked at 34. I have a total of 68 Juniors in our program at present with the assistance of 2 PGA qualified Professionals.

7. **How do you promote a career in golf and the PGA to people who aspire to a career within the industry?**

I encourage all my students who feel they want to be in the industry as playing professionals to also embark in the PGA Program to have backup for their futures. I promote the PGA to them in many ways as per the benefits we receive and that we are a recognised Association around the world. Many benefits and career opportunities come from the PGA and this is one of my key pointers I believe in and promote amongst possible students wanting a career in golf.

Would you like the PGA to share your profile via our social media platforms? Yes

